Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 EURE-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00 INRE-00 EB-07

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ENRG, PFOR, EEC

SUBJECT: EC FOREIGN MINISTERS' COUNCIL, FEBRUARY 10: DISCUSSION ON PREPARATORY CONSUMER/PRODUCER CONFERENCE

REF: A) EC BRUSSELS 1119 B) OECD PARIS 3458

1. ACCORDING TO PRELIMINARY INFORMATIOM THE EC FOREIGN MINISTERS AT THEIR FEBRUARY 10 COUNCIL MEETING CONFIRMED THE DECISION REACHED IN THE COMMITTEE OF PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVES (COREPER) IN FAVOR OF THE YAMANI PROPOSAL FOR REPRESENTATION AT THE PREPARATORY CONSUMER/PRODUCER CONFERENCE. IN ADDITION, THEY WILL SUPPORT ISUANCE OF THE INVITATIONS BY THE FRENCH AT THE APPROPRIATE TIME AND FRANCE CHAIRING THE MEETING. THEY ALSO AGREED THAT THE EC WILL BE REPRESENTED BY THE PRESIDENCY (THE IRISH). THE COMMISSION AND THE NINE MEMBER STATES WILL ALSO ATTEND, SITTING BEHIND THE LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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IRISH. COUNCIL PRESIDENT FITZGERALD TOLD THE PRESS IT IS EXPECTED,

HOWEVER, THAT THE COMMISSION WILL SPEAK FOR THE COMMUNITY DURING DISCUSSIONS ON THOSE AREAS WHERE THE COMMISSION HAS RESPONSIBILITY FOR ESTABLISHED EC POLICIES.
THE MINISTERS UNDERSTOOD THAT THE PREPARATORY MEETING WOULD TAKE PLACE AT SENIOR-OFFICIAL LEVEL.

- 2. IN RESPONSE TO A PRESS INQUIRY, FITZGERALD SAID THAT HE "THOUGHT THE IEA WOULD BE PRESENT AS AN OBSERVER" AT THE PREPARATORY CONFERENCE IN MARCH BUT THAT IT WAS UP TO THE FRENCH TO ISSUE THE INVITATION. COMMENT: WE ARE NOT CERTAIN IF THIS POINT WAS ACTUALLY DISCUSSED BY THE MINISTERS. END COMMENT.
- 3. FURTHER REPORT BASED ON DISCUSSION WITH EC COMMISSION PARTICIPANT IN THE MEETING FOLLOWS.GREENWALD

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